

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION**

SHARON MURRAY,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. 4:20-CV-484 PLC
)	
KILOLO KIJAKAZI,)	
Acting Commissioner of Social Security,)	
)	
Defendant.)	

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

This matter is before the Court on Plaintiff Sharon Murray’s application for award of attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. [ECF No. 33] Plaintiff requests an award of \$5,544.00, representing 26.4 hours of attorney work at a rate of \$210.00 per hour. Plaintiff attaches an “Assignment of Federal Court EAJA Attorney Fee,” in which she assigned any fee paid under the EAJA to her attorney, Jennifer Van Fossan. [ECF No. 34-3]

Defendant filed a response to Plaintiff’s application for attorney fees, in which she states: “Defendant has no objection to Plaintiff’s request for attorney fees under the EAJA in the amount of **\$5,544.00.**” [ECF No. 35 (emphasis in original)] Defendant requests that the Court “enter an order specifically awarding attorney fees of **\$5,544.00** to be paid by the Social Security Administration.” She notes, however, that any award of attorney fees is subject to offset to satisfy any preexisting debt Plaintiff owes to the United States. See Astrue v. Ratliff, 560 U.S. 586 (2010).

After careful consideration,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiff's application for attorney fees [ECF No. 33] is **GRANTED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff is awarded EAJA attorney fees in the amount of \$5,544.00, subject to offset for any preexisting debt that Plaintiff owes to the United States. After determining whether Plaintiff owes any debt to the United States that is subject to offset, Defendant is directed to pay the EAJA fees directly to Plaintiff's attorney.



PATRICIA L. COHEN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Dated this 9th day of May, 2022